

Pretreatment Bytes

Edition II

April 1998

Welcome to Pretreatment Bytes, an electronic update of issues of importance to Pretreatment Coordinators. Bytes is directly emailed from the EPA Headquarters' Pretreatment staff to the Regional EPA and State Pretreatment Coordinators. For additional detail on any issue, contact your State or Regional EPA Pretreatment Coordinator, or the contact named after each item. (Email addresses for EPA employees are generally in the format of "Lastname.firstname@epamail.epa.gov.") If you have any questions regarding, or notices to include in, Pretreatment Bytes, please contact Jan Pickrel at (202) 260-7904 or email at pickrel.jan@epamail.epa.gov.

Clean Water Action Plan Unveiled

In his 1998 State of the Union Address, President Clinton announced a major new Clean Water Initiative to speed the restoration of the nation's rivers, lakes, and coastal waters. This new initiative aims to achieve clean water by strengthening public health protection, targeting community-based watershed protection efforts at high priority areas, and providing communities with new resources to control polluted runoff.

The Action Plan forms the core of President Clinton's Clean Water Initiative in which he proposed \$568 million in Fiscal Year 1999 for implementation.

Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments have many tools they can use to clean up and protect water resources. Regulation, economic incentives, technical assistance research, education, and accurate information all have a role to play in meeting clean water goals. The Action Plan is built around four key tools to achieve clean water goals: Watershed Approach; Strong Federal and State Standards; Natural Resource Stewardship; and Informed Citizens and Officials.

The publication of the Action

Plan is just the beginning of a long-term effort. Many of the proposed actions will be available for public review and comment, and Federal agencies are committed to working closely with States, Tribes, and others to ensure successful implementation of specific actions. Regular reports will also keep the public apprised of progress and remaining challenges. (The preceding information was excerpted from Federal Register Doc. 98-7641, March 18, 1998.) For further information contact Ben Ficks of EPA via email at:

ficks.ben@epamail.epa.gov.

Copies of the Plan can be obtained from EPA's National Center for Environmental Publications and Information at (800) 490-9198. Ask for publication number: EPA-840-R-98-001. It is also available for on the Internet at:

<http://www.epa.gov/cleanwater>.

General Pretreatment Program Regulation Streamlining Proposal

EPA is considering several changes to streamline the pretreatment program, reducing the current burden to POTWs and industrial users via 13 specific technical issues. Where are we with the proposal? After developing draft preamble and regulatory language in 1997 and receiving stakeholder comments on the 13 issues, EPA expects to formally propose the rulemaking in the Federal Register this summer. Contact: Jeff Smith at (202) 260-5586.

Pretreatment in the News

The Water Environment Federation kicked off a four-part series on the pretreatment program in its March 1998 issue of the Operations Forum with the article, "EPA's General National Pretreatment Program: An Overview". April's issue presents, "Industrial User Surveys--Seek out and track dischargers that can disrupt your plant's processes". May's issue discusses industrial user sampling and inspections. The June issue will discuss Control-ling Hauled Waste to POTWs.



Effluent Guidelines Update

Industrial Waste Combustor Subcategory of the Waste Combustor Point Source

Category: 40 CFR 444 was proposed in the Federal Register on 2/6/98 and proposes to establish effluent limitations for the wastewater discharges from commercially-operating hazardous and non-hazardous waste combustor facilities that receive industrial waste from off-site facilities. This wastewater includes water used in air pollution control systems of such combustors or water used to quench flue gas or slag generated as a result of such operations. The proposal does not apply to wastewater from sewage sludge incinerators, medical waste incinerators, and municipal waste combustors. A workshop/public hearing was held at the EPA Headquarters Auditorium on April 1, 1998 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Contact Samantha Hopkins at (202) 260-7149.

Landfills: 40 CFR 445, published in the Federal Register on 2/6/98, proposes to establish effluent limitations for hazardous and non-hazardous landfill wastewaters. The guideline does not apply to waste transfer stations, off-site vehicle washwaters, or captive landfills located at industrial facilities that commingle landfill process wastewater with non-landfill process wastewater (provided that waste is generated on-site or from similar activities at a facility under the same corporate structure). A workshop/public hearing on the proposal was held at EPA Headquarters Auditorium on April 1, 1998

from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Contact Michael Ebner at (202) 260-5397.

Industrial Laundries: 40 CFR 441 was proposed in the Federal Register on 12/17/97. The comment period was extended to 3/19/98, but performance data will be accepted until 4/20/98. Data conforming to EPA's quality assurance project plan and sampling and analysis plans (see section 5.5 and 6.5 of the rulemaking record) are considered most useful. EPA is currently scheduled to promulgate the pretreatment standards for this industry by June 1999. Contact Marta Jordan at (202) 260-0817.

Transportation Equipment

Cleaning: Regulations are scheduled to be proposed in May 1998. Contact John Tinger at (202) 260-4992.

Pharmaceutical Manufact-

uring: Final regulations for 40 CFR 439 are anticipated to be published in late Spring 1998. The regulation establishes wastewater limits for direct and indirect discharges for 4 manufacturing subcategories. EPA plans to promulgate final Maximum Available Control Technology (MACT) standards for the industry on the same day, including provisions regulating emissions from off-site treatment facilities (e.g. POTWs). Contact Frank Hund at (202) 260-7182.

EPA Homepage!

<http://www.epa.gov/>

---Just Passing Through!
Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Training Courses: The SETAC (Society of Toxicology and Chemistry) Foundation has developed a two-day Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) training course as part of its ongoing activities under a cooperative agreement with EPA's Office of Water (Permits Division). The WET course will cover water quality topics such as Criteria and Standards, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting and enforcement, WET testing and quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC), as they apply to the WET program. Courses are currently scheduled for:

- Chapel Hill, NC - Apr.16-17;
- Bellingham, WA - May 6-7;
- Oxford, MS - May 14-15;
- Cincinnati, OH - Mid-June.

If you would like to request a two day training course for your State, Tribe or group or need more information about the courses or the schedule, please contact Barbara Albrecht at the SETAC Foundation at (850-469-1500), by fax (850-469-9778) or by e-mail (barbara@setac.org). Alternatively, you may contact Laura Phillips of EPA at (202) 260-9522.



New Guidance Manual *Hot off the Computer!*

The Cost Accounting and Budgeting for Improved Wastewater Treatment Manual (February 1998) is available via the "What's New?" button on the OWM homepage.

<http://www.epa.gov/owm/new.htm>. Please note, however, that the homepage references the 107-page manual as the "POTW Budgeting and Cost Accounting Document".

...Until paper copies are made, check out the homepage!

Calendar

April 20-21, 1998: EPA/WEF Pretreatment Training Course in Baltimore, MD.

April 22-23, 1998: Region 3/ PA DEP/Eastern Pennsylvania Water Pollution Control Operators' Association Cosponsored Training in Myerstown, PA.

May 6, 1998: New Jersey WEA: "Industry/Regulatory Partnership in a Climate of Change" in Atlantic City, NJ.

May 11-15, 1998: NPDES Permit Writers Training, Portsmouth, NH

May 19, 1998: Idaho WEA in Pocatello, ID.

June 23-24, 1998: EPA/WEF Pretreatment Training Course in Chicago, IL.

July 1998: Region 2 Pretreatment Coordinators Meeting, New York

July 27-31, 1998: NPDES Permit Writers Training, Austin, TX.

August 3-7, 1998: EPA Water Quality Standards Academy Basic Course, Washington, DC. Contact Crystall Smith of The Cadmus Group, Inc.: (703) 998-6862, ext. 170.

September 21-25, 1998: NPDES Permit Writers Training, Seattle.

EPA/AMSA National Meeting 1998

Attention all State Pretreatment Coordinators and EPA Regional and HQ Pretreatment Personnel!

The 1998 EPA/AMSA National Meeting is scheduled for October 27-30 in Kansas City, MO. To make this meeting a meaningful experience for all parties, we are asking for specific agenda suggestions as soon as possible, but no later than the close of business May 8, 1998. Send your suggestions to Pat Bradley via email at bradley.patrick@epamail.epa.gov or call him at (202) 260-6963. Please note that this request is for potential agenda topics for the EPA/AMSA portion of the meeting. At this time we are *also* seeking agenda topics for the EPA/States portion of the meeting.

What are the MACT Standards for POTWs?

Sections 112(e)(1) and (e)(3) of the Clean Air Act (CAA) require EPA to promulgate regulations establishing emission standards and to publish a schedule establishing a date for the promulgation of emission standards for each source category. Section 112(e)(5) established a statutory deadline for promulgation of a MACT (maximum achievable control technology) standard for POTWs of November 15, 1995. EPA regrets missing the statutory deadline, but intends to promulgate a MACT standard prior to the Section 112(j)(2) "MACT hammer" date of May 15, 1999. Presently, the draft proposal is undergoing EPA review. Following review and comment by Office of Management and Budget, EPA expects the proposal to be published by the middle of this year. The current proposal does not require additional air pollution controls for wastewater treatment units at existing facilities. POTWs that would have to apply for a permit under this program and comply with the standard as "Major sources of hazardous air pollutants (HAP)" would have the potential to emit ≥ 10 tons/year of a single HAP or ≥ 25 tons/year of any combination of HAP. [EPA data indicate that POTW with low concentrations of HAP in their influent may not be major sources (due to wastewater emissions) even with a flow rate of 300 MGD.] Additional information is needed from POTWs that have reduced their emissions and discharges of volatile organic compounds via their pretreatment programs. Please send this data and direct your questions to Bob Lucas at (919) 541-0884. Other information on air toxics issues is available from the Office of Air and Radiation homepage: <http://www.epa.gov/oar>.

OWM Newsletter

"Pretreatment Bytes" comes to you from the Pretreatment and Multimedia Branch of the Office of Wastewater Management (OWM)'s Permit Division. OWM also posts a monthly newsletter on the EPA homepage: <http://www.epa.gov/owm/newlet.htm>

R.I.P.

As of 4/3/98, PIPES -- as an EPA modem-based Bulletin Board -- no longer exists. Information previously on the Bulletin Board (guidance manuals, memoranda, etc.) has already been downloaded to the OWM Internet PIPES Homepage: <http://www.epa.gov/owmitnet/pipes/pipes.htm>

What is...SBREFRA (pronounced “sa-BREE-fa”) and SCOPE (not the mouthwash)?

SBREFA (the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act) became law in March, 1996 to foster a government environment that is more responsive to small business and other small entities. The Act contains six key areas of regulatory reform:

- Regulatory Compliance Simplification (write in plain English);
- Equal Access to Justice Amendments (Small businesses can recover attorney's fees and court costs, even when they lose, under certain circumstances);
- Congressional Review (Congress provided itself a process to review and disapprove regulations with which it takes issue);
- Regulatory Enforcement Reform of Penalties (Each regulatory agency must establish a policy to reduce and, where appropriate, even waive civil penalties for minor violations under certain circumstances.);
- Small Business Advocacy Review Panels (For proposed rules subject to the Regulatory Flexibility Act, EPA must solicit input from small businesses subject to the rules and make these findings public.);
- Oversight of Regulatory Enforcement (The National Ombudsman and 10 Regional Fairness Boards were created to provide small businesses with the opportunity to comment on enforcement activity by federal regulatory agencies. They report to Congress annually, giving each agency a “customer satisfaction rating.”)

For additional information about SBREFA, the Ombudsman, or the Regulatory Fairness Boards, call the Small Business Administration at 1-888-REG-FAIR or see their Web site at www.sba.gov/regfair.

EPA is launching **SCOPE** (Small Communities Outreach Project for the Environment) to similarly involve small communities--operators, mayors and town managers, not merely their interest group representatives -- in the early stages of regulatory development. SCOPE will run first as a pilot project using a proposed set of rules called the Industrial Combustion Coordinated Rulemaking, under which several work groups are developing information collection plans needed for regulatory development. These data will be used to develop recommendations for a unified set of federal air regulations. The goal is to make the project a permanent tool to be used nationwide.

New NPDES Permit Application Forms: “2A/2S”

Final changes to the municipal and sludge application forms and requirements (2A/2S), proposed December 1995 (60 FR 62546), were submitted to the U.S. Office of Management and Budget in April 1998. The rule will include two sets of application requirements and corresponding permit application forms, with instructions for each. New Sections 122.21(j) and 122.21(q) contain application requirements pertaining to wastewater treatment and discharge at POTWs, and to the generation, treatment, and disposal of sewage sludge (biosolids) at POTWs and other TWTDS (Treatment Works Treating Domestic Sewage), respectively. The requirements are included on Forms 2A and 2S which replace Standard Form A, Short Form A, and the Interim Sewage Sludge Permit Application Form. Copies of the draft forms are available from EPA's Homepage at: [“http://www.epa.gov/owmitnet/pipes/npfo2a2s.htm”](http://www.epa.gov/owmitnet/pipes/npfo2a2s.htm). Contact Robin Danesi at (202) 260-2991 for any questions.

Regional Sound Bytes: What's New in Pretreatment in EPA's Regions?

- ❶ Region 1 bids farewell to its Regional Pretreatment Coordinator, Mark Spinale, who has left the pretreatment program to head up EPA's Drinking Water State Revolving Funds Program as the regional coordinator. Until his old position is filled, please direct your questions to Joe Canzano, Regional Pretreatment Enforcement Coordinator at (617) 565-3554 or email at [“canzano.joseph@epamail.epa.gov”](mailto:canzano.joseph@epamail.epa.gov).
- ❹ Region 4 introduced their new Regional Pretreatment Coordinator, Melinda Mallard Greene, at the Georgia Water & Pollution Control Association's 1998 Industrial Pollution Control Conference & Exposition on March 24 at the Gwinnett Civic and Cultural Center. Melinda has been an EPA employee for 6 years, most recently in the Region's Water Enforcement Branch. Her email address is [“mallard.melinda@epamail.epa.gov”](mailto:mallard.melinda@epamail.epa.gov) and her telephone number is (404) 562-9771.

